

M0370043

Internal

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**From:** Paul Baker  
**To:** Southwick, Vickie  
**CC:** Kunzler, Lynn; Munson, Tom  
**Date:** 3/4/2009 9:59 AM  
**Subject:** Call from Bill Harrison

Vickie--

Could you please print this e mail for the file (M0370043)?

I had a call from Bill Harrison who expressed some concerns about the Energy Queen mine, particularly with regard to water issues. The items we discussed were:

1. Effects of pond water on wildlife. The operator has fenced the ponds, but that doesn't necessarily preclude even large animals from getting in. It obviously does not keep out birds and bats. I told him I would like to see analyses of the water before making a firm decision on what to do.
2. Discharge and inspections. He recognizes that the operator will have to meet discharge standards, but he doesn't feel confident the operator won't tamper with the samples. I told him there are very stiff penalties for doing this sort of thing. He needs to be reassured the regulatory agencies will sometimes sample the water to verify the operator's data.
3. Ground water levels. Once the operator starts to de-water the mine, what effect will this have on ground water levels and nearby culinary wells? He indicated these wells were marginal when the mine was operating before.

Bill also indicated his wife had sent comments to the Division of Water Quality and was requesting a public meeting. I asked Keith Eagan from Water Quality to let us know if this meeting happens.

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